

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ITF-01 SR-02 ORM-01 VO-03 SCA-01

SCS-03 AID-05 OPR-02 L-02 H-02 DPW-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8888

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS, SREF, VS, VN

SUBJECT: VIET NAM EVACUATION REQUESTS

REF: A) STATE 92867; B) STATE 97839; C) STATE 97827

1. FOLLOWING RECEIPT REFTEL A, EMBASSY STOPPED ACCEPTING ALL NAMES OF POSSIBLE EVACUEES FOR TRANSMISSION WASHINGTON AND/OR SAIGON. THE TEXT OF DEPARTMENT'S REPLY TO PUBLIC INQUIRIES WAS TRANSLATED AND HANDED TO THOSE REQUESTING EVACUATION ASSISTANCE FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

2. REFTEL B WOULD APPEAR TO ALLOW FOR TRANSMISSION TO DEPARTMENT AND SAIGON THOSE CASES EMBASSY JUDGES TO BE CLEARLY "HIGH RISK" DUE TO GVN OR USG CONNECTIONS. THE EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED SEVERAL REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE IN EVACUATION OF FAMILIES OF EX-MINISTERS, AMBASSADORS, MILITARY OFFICERS, JUDICIAL OFFICIALS OF VIET NAM. THESE PERSONS WOULD CERTAINLY FALL INTO A "HIGH RISK" CATEGORY (AS OPPOSED TO THE ANTIQUE DEALER CITED IN REFTEL C) AND WE PROPOSE, UPON RECEIPT DEPARTMENT'S APPROVAL, TO SUBMIT SUCH LISTS FOR CONSIDERATION TO SAIGON.

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3. WITH REGARD TO THOSE POTENTIAL REFUGEES NOT CONSIDERED BY EMBASSY TO BE IN IMMEDIATE DANGER, WE PROPOSE TO ACCEPT THEIR NAMES, WITH NO ASSURANCE OF ASSISTANCE, IN ACCORDANCE PROCEDURE OUTLINED IN PGH. 6 OF REFTEL B.

4. FROM FLOOD OF VISITORS AT EMBASSY, WE HAVE LEARNED THAT MANY VIETNAMESE WISH TO DEPART SAIGON FOR FRANCE AND THUS THE STOP IN GUAM WOULD SEEM UNNECESSARY. IF THE GVN COULD BE CONVINCED TO RELAX THE EXIT VISA REQUIREMENT, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT MANY VIETNAMESE WOULD BE ABLE TO UTILIZE THEIR FRENCH VISAS (OFTEN WITH FRENCH LAISSER PASSER IN LIEU OF GVN PASSPORT) AND DIRECT SAIGON/PARIS AIR TICKETS PROVIDED BY RELATIVES IN FRANCE. WE HAVE HAD REPORTS FROM MANY FRENCH RELATIVES OF PERSONS ALREADY EVACUATED TO GUAM INDICATING THAT THEY HAVE NO INTENTION OF GOING TO THE UNITED STATES BUT SIMPLY WISH TO COME TO FRANCE. THE QUAI HAS SENT SEVERAL PEOPLE TO THE EMBASSY REQUESTING THAT AUTHORIZATION FOR TRANSIT VISAS (AT SAN FRANCISCO) BE GRANTED IN ORDER TO ALLOW FOR CONTINUOUS TRAVEL TO FRANCE.

5. THE DEPARTMENT'S URGENT GUIDANCE IS REQUESTED.
RUSH

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